

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-06

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3608

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 3908

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS1

TAGS: OAS, CI, PFOR, CU

SUBJ: SAN JOSE CONFERENCE ON AMENDING RIO TREATY

1. SUMMARY: IN QUITE IRREGULAR FASHION, GOC MAY BE SUGGEST-
ING LIFTING OF OAS SANCTIONS AGAINST CUBA. IT HAS DISTRIBUTED
DRAFT DECLARATION ADDRESSED TO OAS PERMANENT COUNCIL, DESIGNED
TO ASK OPINION OF INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD AS TO CONVEN-
IENCE OR IMPRUDENCE, FROM SECURITY STANDPOINT, OF REMOVING
SANCTIONS. INITIATIVE APPEARS TO LACK SUPPORT OF NORMALLY
INTERESTED GOC OFFICIALS. END SUMMARY.

2. ARMED FORCES ATTACHES OF ALL OAS MEMBERS (MINUS BRAZIL,
WHOSE ATTACHES WERE NOT AVAILABLE), PLUS SENIOR MEMBERS OF
USMILGP WERE INVITED TO DEFENSE MINISTRY JUNE 12 AND GIVEN
COPY OF UNDATED DOCUMENT IN FORM OF DRAFT DECLARATION TO OAS
PERMANENT COUNCIL SIGNED BY FONMIN CARVAJAL. COPY BEING
POUCHED TO ARA/BC JUNE 16.

3. PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS ARE INTENDED TO SHOW THAT SANCTIONS
AGAINST CUBA WERE ADOPTED BECAUSE OF SOVIET/CUBAN THREAT
TO AMERICAS, AND THAT SUBSEQUENT IADB STUDIES VERIFIED
THAT THREAT. TWO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS PROVIDE (A) THAT IN
FUTURE MEETINGS CONCERNED WITH REMOVAL OF SANCTIONS, THERE
BE CONSIDERED "EVALUATIONS AND PROPOSALS" CONTAINED IN IADB
DOCUMENTS ON SOVIET/CUBAN THREAT (STRATEGIC EVALUATION OF
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SITUATION AND PLANS ALFA AND BRAVO); AND (2) THAT IADB BE ASKED

FOR ITS OPINION ON "APPROPRIATENESS OR IMPRUDENCE" OF REMOV-
ING CUBAN SANCTIONS, FROM STANDPOINT OF HEMISPHERE SECURITY.

4. IN HANDING DOCUMENT TO ATTACHES, DEFENSE MIN BRADY SAID
IT WAS PRESENTED FOR SUCH USE AS GOVERNMENTS SAW FIT. HE
ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PROCEDURE WAS UNORTHODOX BUT SAID GOC
HAD AUTHORITY TO MAKE ITS VIEWS KNOWN IN THIS WAY.

5. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH SENIOR, WELL INFORMED
CHILEAN MILITARY OFFICER, USAIRA WAS TOLD THAT FONMIN CARVAJAL
AND DEFENSEMIN BRADY HAD BEEN VERY RELUCTANT TO GO THROUGH
WITH THIS MANEUVER BUT HAD BEEN ORDERED TO DO SO BY PRESIDENT
PINOCHET. OFFICER SAID FORMAL GOC POSITION WOULD BE PRESENTED
THROUGH NORMAL DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS. PURPOSE WAS TO DELAY RE-
MOVAL OF SACTIONS IN HOPE THAT SOMETHING ELSE WOULD COME UP TO
PREVENT REMOVAL. CONCLUDED THAT GOC WOULD HAVE TO END UP
SUPPORTING US POSITION UNLESS THAT HAPPENED.

6. COMMENT: APPEARS FROM STAGING OF MEETING, DETAILS OF
DOCUMENT, AND ABOVE COMMENTS THAT FOREIGN AND DEFENSE MINISTERS
BELIEVE THEY ARE ON EAK GROUND AND ARE ACTING ONLY ON
INSTRUCTIONS FROM PINOCHET. EMBASSY RECALLS INTEREST IN
IADB EXPRESSED BY CAVAJAL TO ASSTSEC ROGERS DURING
MARCH 11 MEETING IN FONMINISTRY. CARVAJAL THEN PUT FORWARD
IDA THAT IADB SHOULD REFOCUS ITS EFFORTS TOWARD MEETING
CURRENT SOVIET SUBVERSIVE THREAT.
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